



AF/2876

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Joint Patent Application of

GRIEU et al.

Atty. Ref.: 677-22

Serial No. 09/806,907

Group: 2876

Filed: April 6, 2001

Examiner: A. Kim

For: METHOD FOR EXCHANGING DATA BETWEEN AN AUTOMATIC
DISPENSER AND A MICROCIRCUIT CARD

October 21, 2003

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF NON-COMPLIANCE

Sir:

This is responsive to the Notification of Non-Compliance mailed October 8, 2003
in the above-identified application.

In the Notification, the Examiner checks box no. 4 alleging that the Brief "does not contain a concise explanation of the claimed invention." The Examiner's attention is directed to Section "V. SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION" which contains a detailed and concise explanation of the claimed invention comparing and contrasting it to the known prior art. Appellants also note that there are no drawings in the application and therefore no reference to the drawings and associated reference characters would be appropriate.

Appellants have amended the Summary of the Invention by including a reference to page and line numbers of the specification which more fully explain points made in the description of the invention.

In the note added by the Examiner at the bottom of the Notification of Non-Compliance, the Examiner states "Re 4, in the summary of invention, when items are referred [sic], the reference number to the items (and/or page number and line number) should be used along with the items." As noted above, there are no drawings and therefore there are no reference numbers to items in drawings. Appellants have amended the Summary of the Invention to set forth the page number and line number of the detailed discussion of specific method steps.

As a result, the amended Appeal Brief submitted herewith in triplicate is believed to clearly meet all requirements of 37 CFR §1.192 and consideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Having responded to all points raised in the Notification of Non-Compliance, it is submitted that the Appeal Brief meets the requirements of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and forwarding of the Appeal Brief to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for consideration of this appeal on the merits is respectfully requested. In the event the Examiner is of the opinion that a brief telephone or personal interview will facilitate allowance of one or more of the claims, he is respectfully requested to contact appellants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHUSE P.C.

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Enclosures: Appeal Brief in triplicate